



Hello again everybody, and welcome to our newest supporters!

Yesterday marked the end of eight months of operations for Team 11. We've managed to do some good things, but I promise you, barring something unforeseen, month nine is going to eclipse everything we've done so far.

To start with, Team 11 is expanding. We are no longer seeking to provide aid for one team of NMRG and their families. **This has become a program that advocates for and supports the entirety of all former members of the NMRG Program and their families.** This is a 15-fold increase in personnel, from our original count of 130 to roughly 2,000.

It goes without saying that our outreach and fundraising must expand exponentially to fit this ambition. Our new association with the Moral Compass Federation (MCF) has been extremely helpful in that regard, expanding our reach to many new potential fundraising and media avenues. (<https://soaa.org/afghanistan/>)

August will mark the anniversary of one of the great stains on modern American history: it will mark one year since Kabul fell and the US Government completed its ill planned withdrawal at the expense of thousands of our allies. In conjunction with MCF, we will do everything in our power to ensure that it does not go unnoticed.

That's something for another day, but you will hear from us soon on that account.

As many of you who have met me previously already know, my med-school ambitions have consumed a substantial amount of my time this summer, leading to a somewhat disjointed release of updates. With that said, let me summarize some recent successes:

- Earlier in July we received 14 donated computers from Occidental College. These will be going to Afghan Refugees in the Seattle, LA and DC Metro areas. This was a side-project branching from our typical activities, but now in conjunction with other MCF organizations, we are exploring the possibility of expanding this effort to enable the education of girls in Afghanistan. (<https://www.instagram.com/p/CgMrZaqpc0q/>)
- We celebrated July 4th with the news that seven members of Team 11 received their visas for immigration to the United States. (<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cfl9J6HsomZ/>)
- In June we added one more to our numbers when "Sam's" wife Samira gave birth to a daughter. (<https://www.instagram.com/p/Ce6LFbAh-X1/>)

In my continued (and failing) efforts to keep my updates short and concise, I will now wind things down. There are some nuances about the NMRG that make them a particularly difficult group to manage, and I have attached a tentative organizational chart that addresses how we will remain functional in the face of a 15-fold expansion. I also invite everyone to check out our continually updated site at <https://www.saveteam11.org/>

As always, I am striving to keep Team 11 as approachable as possible; I encourage you to forward this update as widely as possible and to contact me directly for anything, whether it is questions, suggestions or fundraising leads.

Until next time,

Tom

Team 11 Org Chart (Draft)

The ongoing crisis in Afghanistan has resulted in many volunteers burning out due to conflicts with personal obligations. Because this promises to be a multi-year endeavor without State Department/US Government assistance, it is paramount that measures are taken to combat this fatigue as best we are able. Further compounding this, due to the nature of the NMRG program, many NMRG managers are still on active duty and are often restricted in the amount of time they can allocate. **Team 11 has adopted a multi-component structure as a result.**

The **Centralized Component** resembles a classic non-profit. The executive director position is a near full-time responsibility, and coordinates typical organizational functions such as outreach and fundraising. The deputy director disseminates funds to the decentralized component in conjunction with the Executive Director's Guidance. All expenditures must first be approved by the board of directors.

The **Decentralized Component** largely encompasses current and former Special Forces and EOD Techs who have personal connections with an NMRG team. The manager's core responsibility is ensuring health and welfare of their respective teams. This includes ensuring that immigration documents are relayed to the appropriate entity and requesting assistance from the centralized component when needed.

SIV Casework is handled primarily by other organizations. Team 11 does not currently have the manpower, and there is no point in reinventing the wheel when nonprofits like Operation Recovery, TF Argo and Operation Northstar have proven, functional models with a year-plus of built up relationships. Casework is also an enormously labor-intensive task with minimal immediate impact -though it is absolutely vital in the long term. Outsourcing it enables NMRG managers to focus on health and welfare concerns, tackle big-picture or emergent problems and avoid the burnout that would occur if they compound their active-duty responsibilities with volunteer work.

